U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Attorney Docket No. 501.37436CV2 UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION NISHIHARA, SHINJI, et al. First Inventor **TRANSMITTAL** METHOD OF FABRICATING SEMICONDUCTOR INTEGRATED CIRCUIT **DEVICE** (Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b)) Express Mail Label No. Mail Stop Patent Application **APPLICATION ELEMENTS** Commissioner for Patents ADDRESS TO: SEE MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents. P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450 1. Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or (Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing) Computer Program (Appendix) 8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission Applicant claims small entity status. fif\_applicable, all necessary) See 37 CFR 1.27. a. Computer Readable Form (CRF) з. 🛛 b. Specification Sequence Listing on: Specification [Total Pages: 37] (preferred arrangement set forth below) i. . D CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or -Descriptive title of the invention ii. . D paper -Cross Reference to Related Applications -Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D c. Statements verifying identity of above copies -Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix -Background of the Invention ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS -Brief Summary of the Invention Assignment Papers (cover sheet & documents(s)) -Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) -Detailed Description 10. 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement Power of Attorney -Claim(s) -Abstract of the Disclosure (when there is an assignee) English Translation Document (if applicable) 4. 🛛 Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets: 20] Copies of IDS Citations Information Disclosure 5. Oath or Declaration [Total Sheets: 2] Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 Preliminary Amendment Newly executed (original or copy) b. . Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63 (d)) Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized) (for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed) Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)** (if foreign priority is claimed) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122 Named in the prior application, see 37 CFR (b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b) or its equivalent. 17. Other: Letter and Credit Card Payment Form Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76 18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment. or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76: Continuation \_\_ Divisional Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: 09/380,735 Prior application information: Examiner: D. Kang Art Unit: 2811 For CONTINUATION OR DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts. 19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS Customer Number OR Correspondence address below 020457 Name ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP 1300 NORTH SEVENTEENTH STREET Address **SUITE 1800** City Zip Code ARLINGTON State 22209 Country **UNITED STATES** Telephone (703) 312-6600 (703) 312-6666 Name (Print/Type) Alan E. Şehiğvelli Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 32,087 Signature Date November 26, 2003

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.53(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PTO/SB/17 (10-03)

11/26/2003

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FEE TRANSMITTAL								Complete if Known						
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Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.														
☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27							Art Unit Unassigned							
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501.37436CV2

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: NISHIHARA et al.

Serial No.: Rule 53(b) of 09/380,735

Filed: November 26, 2003

For: METHOD OF FABRICATING SEMICONDUCTOR INTEGRATED

CIRCUIT DEVICE

Art Unit: Unassigned (2811 previously in parent application)

Examiner: Unassigned (D. Kang previously in parent application)

## **LETTER**

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 November 26, 2003

Sir:

4 . ..

The original claims of the above-identified application, claims 1-8, are noted. All of these original claims are directed to a method of fabricating a semiconductor integrated circuit device, with claim 1 being the sole independent claim. Claim 1 includes processing steps corresponding to some of the processing steps in independent claim 48 of Application No. 09/380,735, given a filing date of February 4, 2000.

Applicants intend to file a Supplemental Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application, presenting claims to be considered on the merits in the above-identified application. If this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment is not in the file of the above-identified application at the time that the Examiner takes up the above-identified application for examination, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned, so as to determine status of this Supplemental

Preliminary Amendment. The Examiner is thanked in advance for complying with this request.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees and excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (referencing case No. 501.37436CV2) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully, submitted,

Alan E. Schiavelli

Registration No. 32,087

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